

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph number [0005], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0005] Lactic acid is widely used in the food industries, such as in the dairy, meat, and bakery industries and in the confectionery industry. Lactic acid is also often reported as being used in a coated form in a food composition. See, for instance, ~~EP 527 570~~ CH 527 570, US 4 262 027, and US 4 576 825. However, these patents disclose the use of lactic acid in the liquid ~~from~~ form, and it is necessary to combine the liquid lactic acid with a solid substrate in order to obtain a solid composition. In ~~EP 527 570~~ CH 527 570, lactic acid is combined with glucose, in US 4 497 845 with a solid carrier, in US 4 511 584 with micro-cellulose or calcium lactate, and in US 4 511 592, US 4 772 477, and US 6153236, the lactic acid is platted on calcium lactate. In US 4 576 825, liquid lactic acid is encapsulated using a co-axial-extrusion method.